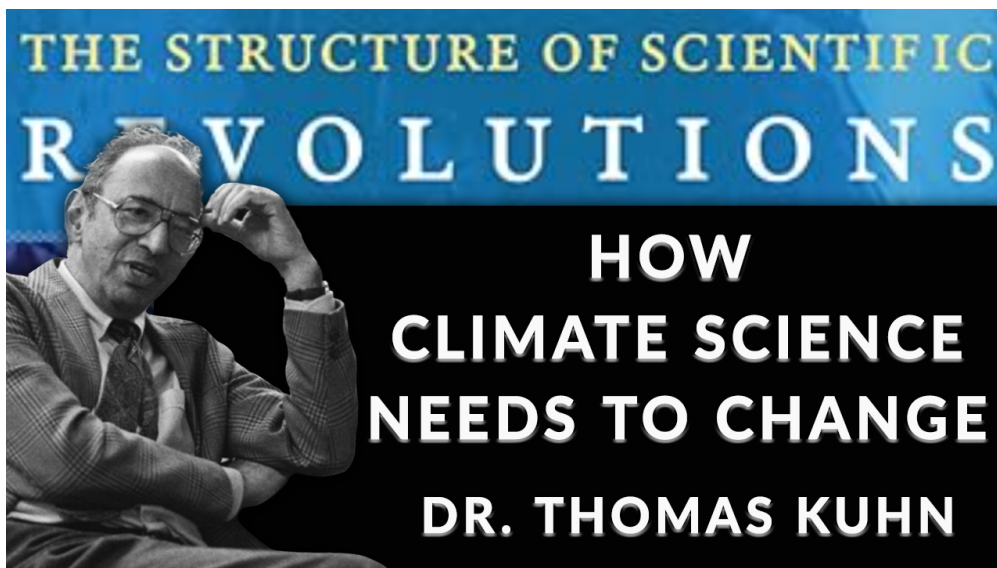


Wednesday Wakeup

Jul 23, 2025

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In our latest “Backgrounder” video “[The End of Alarmism](#)” we draw on the work of Thomas Kuhn to argue that despite its fortified position as orthodoxy in academia, the press and politics, the climate alarmist “paradigm” shows every sign of being near the end of the road as a scientific theory

Climate crisis roundup



An email from *Bloomberg Green* growls “Air travel is soaring, and so are emissions”. The [piece it teases to](#) has the good grace to admit that “Airlines Trying to Reduce Emissions With Green Jet Fuel Face Reality Check”. Yeah. That green jet fuel is another one of those energy transition mirages. But they miss the much bigger point: normal people may have been intimidated into saying they believe there’s a man-made climate crisis and will happily see others sacrifice to stop it. They may even have been lulled into thinking they really were willing to make lifestyle changes, provided they weren’t required to give anything up. But their behaviour, from the cars they buy to the planes they fly in, suggests that they no more believe in it than the green-virtue-signaling [celebrities jetting to Jeff Bezos’s lavish wedding](#). Which we think rather serves the alarmists right for the bullying tone of their, well, arguments is often not the right word since a key part of it was steamrolling opponents, not engaging them respectfully.

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Still warm

Speaking of heat, the absurdity of journalists [portraying warmth as deadly](#) soars unabated. An item in the *Ottawa Sun*, warning about severe thunderstorms which actually can be dangerous, though the promised “Wind gusts up to 100 km/h, heavy downpours, Hail up to toonie size” touted by Environment Canada seem not to have materialized, prated that “A stifling heat wave continued to hold the capital in its grasp Sunday, with fresh heat warnings from Environment Canada. The forecast is for a high of 31 C...” So 87.8 F is now scary, even stifling? Yes. And more. “The sizzling temperatures are expected to continue through at least Wednesday.” A sizzling less than 90 in mid-July. We are all going to die.

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- We are aware that anecdotes are not great evidence. But one of us happened to be driving on a major highway through northern Toronto (Canada’s largest city) a couple of weeks back and got an external temperature reading of 40C. But the official high for that day was just 34. Large amounts of asphalt, cement and engines distort readings. So beware of monitoring stations in urban areas, especially at airports. (The same person also routinely drives from a rural setting into Ottawa and even if it’s late afternoon with temperatures falling, it’s always a degree or two hotter when they arrive than when they leave. Try it yourself wherever you live.)
- From the “hidden in plain sight” file, Jesse Kline in the *National Post* [writes](#) about how Canada’s Natural Governing Party is rediscovering the importance of natural resources to our economy, or should be. He describes a number of failed interventions like “innovation-investment and super-cluster programs” and a “Canada Growth Fund” that would only fund emissions reductions, multi-billion-dollar state programs that produced only debt, frustration, and regulations. And then he observes that, as is generally known nowadays, our productivity, income growth and well-being crashed. “Despite the massive public investments that fell from the Trudeau money tree over the past decade, Canada’s per capita GDP growth lagged well behind the OECD average in every year between 2015 and 2024, according to World Bank data, while the government’s own figures show that GHG emissions declined by a measly 6.6 per cent between 2015 and 2023.” So if you want a “demonstration project” for the Green New World, well, there it sits, brown, red and ugly.

- When we're promised a green energy transition, we're alternatively told we won't have to make any lifestyle sacrifices and that we didn't really want what we're giving up anyway. So we were intrigued to be teased [to an article](#) "I'm a microbiologist. Here's how often you should really wash your bedding". Obviously the message was going to be that we don't do it nearly often enough and are wallowing in filth, partly because microbiologists feel about cleanliness the way dentists do about flossing (four times a day is barely adequate) and partly because... but why dwell on our laundry habits? The article complained that "just 28 per cent of Brits wash their sheets once a week" and we think most of that 28 per cent are totally lying and the rest are obsessives. But the point is, the obsessive author says do sheets and pillowcases "Weekly, or every three to four days if you've been ill, sweat heavily, or share your bed with pets." And at "60°C or higher". Which is going to use a lot of energy, now isn't it?
- We were also struck [by an article](#) about how Canada's David Suzuki Foundation, green do-gooder supreme, "has repeatedly used false and alarmist imagery to exaggerate the ecological impacts of natural gas development in northeastern British Columbia, a new complaint to Canada's Competition Bureau alleges." Specifically, they use an older aerial image of Wyoming to denigrate natural gas in BC today even after being told of the error. But what struck us was a throwaway line that the foundation "raised \$12.1 million in Canadian donations" last year and has some \$22.5 million in reserve. Yet they pose as David confronting the skeptical Goliath of, well, people like us.
- Just when you thought it couldn't get worse (and public policy, like golf and life generally, is never so bad that it can't) MAGA types [want to hold hearings](#) on geoengineering conspiracy theories in the wake of those Texas floods. Not to rebut them, apparently. To indulge in them. No. Stop. It was bad enough already.
- A *Bloomberg Green* story [warns](#) that while Chinese workers are meant to get some sort of "heat wave allowance" or "danger money" if required to work "for hours in extreme heat conditions" which apparently means over 35C, it doesn't actually happen. Which might alert some to the lack of rule of law in China. But one of us recalls being told by his father that in one of his first jobs, at a factory, he was given salt pills when it became unpleasantly hot. So apparently there was temperature back in the 1940s. And yes, at 95 it is getting hot. Not unprecedentedly. Just hot.
- While fuming over the endless "scorching" and "soaring" rhetoric of journalists regarding summer warmth, we were also annoyed [by](#) "Heatwave could lead to over 350 excess deaths across UK, experts warn". And not just the vacant "experts warn or "could" treated as news. Also the failure of the body count to soar. Where are the scorching reels of yesterweek, [when](#) "Experts warn nearly 600 could die in England and Wales during the heatwave, as temperatures soar to 34C"? Think of it. 250 lives saved. Or else these aren't really precise numbers, just people hollering the same mindless monotonous slogans over and over.
- Also [unoriginal to the point of being misleading](#) is "Experts link the rising frequency and intensity of these heatwaves to climate change, warning that such extreme weather events are becoming increasingly common across Europe's southern region." Why? Because it immediately continued "'Extreme heat is no longer a rare event – it has become the new normal,' tweeted UN Secretary-General António Guterres from Seville, Spain, where temperatures were expected to hit 42°C on Monday afternoon." And tweets from a politician are not "experts say"... or worse, nowadays they are.

Worth repeating

“deaths from cold far outnumber those from heat. The most comprehensive Lancet study shows that while heat kills nearly half a million people globally each year, cold kills more than 4.5 million – i.e., nine times more. Yet, perversely, global media instead write nine times more stories about heat waves than cold waves. We deserve to know which is the bigger threat. We should know, for example, that the United States sees more than 80,000 deaths from cold each year, vastly outweighing its 8,000 heat deaths.”

– Bjorn Lomborg in *New York Post* [July 4, 2025](#)

Policy Corner

And if you believe that claim...

As the electric vehicle lack of revolution [grinds to a halt without subsidies](#), we’re told that a Chinese firm has invented a way to charge an EV in five minutes. It’s the sort of thing [swallowed whole](#) by media outlets that [regularly run features](#) like “There’s a Race to Power the Future. China Is Pulling Away.” But when we [read things](#) like “THIS NEW EV BATTERY PATENT CLAIMS EXTREME RANGE & ULTRA-FAST CHARGING (5 MINUTES FLAT)” our immediate reaction, quoting from an email containing same, is “I heard it too but I should think it’s highly unlikely. Presumably if they had you could also charge your cellphone in about eight seconds. And a lot of things would explode.” Including press credibility.

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Broken but not record

Last week we complained about misuse of “scorched” to describe places that got warm in summer as usual, noting that scorching required things to be blackened and perhaps broken. So on the latter point we think it only fair to [note a story](#) that “Germany will carry out emergency repairs on its autobahn this weekend after extreme heat in recent days blew up large chunks of concrete along key stretches of the highway. Temperatures of up to 39C caused the material to expand and crack open roads in various parts of the country, leading to hours-long traffic jams.” So heat broke their Autobahn? Well no. Not really. Temperatures of “up to 39C” are certainly not sufficient to destroy cement or there would be precious little of the stuff anywhere. What really happened is that the same governments not looking after energy infrastructure are also neglecting transportation infrastructure and deflecting blame to the climate change ogre

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The public are such fools

Speaking of what everybody they know knows, *New York Times* columnist David Wallace-Wells recently exploited the tragic non-climate-related Texas floods to [lament](#) how dumbo ordinary Americans just sit there waiting for weather death instead of doing anything: “Too often, we’re responding to obvious threats of weather disaster less by properly adapting than by acclimating to them – with government offering a kind of shrugging indifference, too.” If only the hoi polloi were as smart and dynamic as his set. And then he did something: attribution science. Because “doing something” only seems to involve thinking approved thoughts about disasters, rather than actually doing anything to lessen their impacts.

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Say what?

“As protectors of the land and water, Indigenous peoples have long been leaders in climate action.”

– Press release from Environment and Climate Change Canada [July 8, 2025](#)
[that history does not actually record European settlers being warned about CO2 by wise elders is presumably just more colonialist distortion of the record]

Things of a number

Last week we told you we love birds. This week we want you to know we love forests. Really we do. And in Canada we have lots of them. For now. But climate change is coming for them. Science has shown that climate change will cause more fires in the boreal forest. Fortunately science has shown that climate change will lead to fewer fires in the boreal forest. Wait, how can that be? Simple, it's climate change where you can #HaveItBothWays.

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Down with carbon

We frequently mock the idea that the world is in an energy transition and that big, industrialized countries are in the process of decarbonizing. But when confronted with convincing data we must sometimes change our minds. And Roger Pielke Jr. has recently shown [a chart](#) on his Substack of US emissions intensity, aka million tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted per thousand dollars of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), adjusted for inflation, showing that over the 34 years since 1992, the year of the Rio conference that got the ball rolling on climate policy, emissions intensity fell by a little over half. But there are two other remarkable features of the graph. First, it is a straight line sloping downward. For most of that time there was no U.S. federal climate policy in the US but it made no difference whether there was or not. Second, it is still going down and at the current pace could reach zero in 2050. It probably won't but, again, whether it does or doesn't won't have much to do with climate policy.

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The effect of additional CO2 on Whorled Dropseed

From the [CO2Science archive](#): *Sporobolus pyramidalis* Beauv. Or Whorled Dropseed is, like so many of God's little creations, either an invasive pest or a pretty flower depending on where and when you find it. It is also a very cool moniker that, pace Dave Barry, would be a good name for a rock band. But love it, hate it or play it, the stuff prefers hot places so it [ranges](#) from the U.S. south into South America and maybe beyond, but looks a lot like other types of Dropseed so rumours of its appearance in China, Africa and elsewhere are not confirmed. Wherever it goes or has gone, it will benefit from the CO2 it finds there. In 2001 there were six experiments that found an additional 300 ppm CO2 boosted its growth by an average of 33.5%. So Whorl on little Dropseed, wherever the wind carries you. And a one and a two

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Noteworthy Links

For additional news, science and opinion on climate change we recommend the [Global Warming Policy Forum newsletter](#).
